

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02291 282133Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 SP-02 PA-02 ICAE-00
NSCE-00 TRSE-00 STR-07 ITC-01 CTME-00 AGRE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 COME-00
/060 W

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O 282110Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4362

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2291

DEPT PASS ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, OAS, SCCN, DR
SUBJECT: CONTINUED DR PRESS COVERAGE OF OAS/CECON MEETING

REF: SD 2217

1. THE DR PRESS GAVE A MIXED FLAVOR TO ITS REPORTING OF THE
APRIL 27 EVENTS OF THE VIII REGULAR MEETING OF OAS/SCCN IN
SANTO DOMINGO. AS EXPECTED (REFTEL) THE APRIL 27
EFE WIRE STORY ON THE CHURCH BILL SEEKING TO INCREASE SUGAR
IMPORT DUTIES HAS BEGUN TO GENERATE A LIVELY RESPONSE.

2. THE MORNING TABLOID EL SOL BANNERED FRONT PAGE HEADLINES
"U.S. LEGISLATORS SUBMIT BILL WHICH AGGRAVATES THE LATIN AMERICAN
SUGAR CRISIS." EQUALLY UNFAVORABLE WERE THE INSIDE ARTICLES
TITLED "DOMINICAN DELEGATION EXPOUNDS IN SCCN MEETING THAT THE
DR IS ONE OF THE MOST DISCRIMINATED COUNTRIES TRADING WITH U.S.,"
AND "LATIN AND CARIBBEAN GROUP CONSIDER U.S. SUGAR DUTIES HAVE
CONTRIBUTED TO THE FALL OF PRICES." THESE ARTICLES AMPLY SUM-
MARIZED THE DR AND OTHER LATIN DELEGATIONS' CRITICISMS OF GSP,
U.S. SUGAR POLICY, AND THE U.S. PROPLSAL TO SELL PART OF ITS
METAL RESERVE STOCKPILES. THE U.S. RESPONSE, HOWEVER, FOUND
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PRINT ONLY AT THE TAIL END OF ONE ARTICLE IN A SHORT-CHANGED
FASHION.

3. LISTIN DIARIO,, AS IS THE PAPER'S WONT, OFFERED A BALANCED
REVIEW OF THE DAY'S HAPPENINGS. FRONG PAGE ARTICLES ANNOUNCED
"SCCN SUGAR COUNTRIES REAFFIRM SUPPORT OF PACT (ISA)," AND "U.S.
SEEKS TO RAISE SUGAR DUTIES." THE FORMER ARTICLE WENT RIGHT TO

THE POINT OF STATING THE DAY'S SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE DR, NAMELY, THE DR HAD FAILED TO LINE UP THE REST OF LA BEHIND ITS PROPOSAL CALLING FOR THE U.S. TO REINSTITUTE A NATIONAL SUGAR QUOTA SYSTEM. AN ARTICLE ON THE INSIDE PAGES GAVE EQUAL FOOTING TO THE LATIN U.S. DISCUSSION OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL TO SELL PART OF ITS TIN AND COPPER RESERVES.

4. THE REPORTING OF THE OTHER MORNING PAPER EL CARIBE WEIGHTED ITSELF ON THE LATIN SIDE WITHOUT SENSATIONALIZING EVENTS. FRONT PAGE HEADLINES PROCLAIMED "LA ASSERTS U.S. DUTIES AFFECT SUGAR AGREEMENT." THE ARTICLE DISPASSIONATELY RECOUNTED THE LATIN CRITICISMS, BUT ONLY GAVE THE U.S. SIDE OF THE ISSUE A SCANT PARAGRAPH AND BURIED THE DR'S DEFEAT ON NATIONAL SUGAR QUOTAS DEEP INTO THE ARTICLE AND IN A FACE-SAVING MANNER. THE DR CRITIQUE OF GSP FOUND COVERAGE IN ANOTHER SECTION; THE PIECE INCLUDED A FAIR SYNOPSIS OF THE U.S. DELEGATES' ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY GSP AND OFFER OF COOPERATION ON THE ISSUE.
YOST

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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